

GUIDELINES FOR THE SHIPMENT OF DRIED BLOOD SPOT SPECIMENS

- Allow blood spots to thoroughly air dry for *at least* 2 hours on a flat, non-absorbent surface, away from heat and sunlight. Avoid touching or smearing blood spots. Never superimpose one filter paper on another.
- After blood spots are dry, cover the filter paper with the paper overlay attached to the collection kit (filter paper and forms). This is required by the US Postal Service.
- The collection kit needs to have a biohazard symbol attached in order to meet US Postal Regulations. This symbol is printed on the paper overlay on our newer forms.
- The dried blood spots must **NOT** be packaged in airtight, leak-proof plastic bags. The lack of air can cause heat buildup and moisture accumulation that can damage the blood spot test substances. Also, chemicals in the plastic could leach into the blood spot causing incorrect analytical test results.
- The collection kit can be enclosed in a quality-bond paper envelope and securely sealed. The US Postal Service refers to the outer envelope as a secondary container. This envelope must have sufficient strength to withstand ordinary postal processing.
- **Mail the specimen not later than 24 hours from time of collection.** (This is in accordance with Kansas Administrative Regulation 28-4-504.)
www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-kars/index.do
- **DO NOT batch specimens unless it spans a 24-hour period and is coordinated with courier pickups or mail service.**
- **DO NOT put specimens in an outside drop box.**
- Mail specimens to: **NEONATAL CHEMISTRY
KDHE / DHEL
FORBES FIELD, BLDG. 740
TOPEKA, KS 66620 - 0001**